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between 1778 and 1783 cannot be judged from a correct standpoint. The title of the very popular *Crisis*, as Professor Tyler infers, was unquestionably taken from the English periodical of that name, published, until suppressed, in numbers in 1775-6. At least four editions of this were reprinted and circulated in America in a typographical form later imitated exactly by Paine's publication.

Though a number of the journals of Whigs in the Revolution are introduced, many more might have been, but even if the author considered that he had given sufficient examples of them, it would have been well to have included an obverse by introducing the diaries of the loyalists, Curwen, Ithiel Town and Van Schaack. In the consideration of histories, some notice should have been taken of Belknap's *History of New Hampshire*. Nor does the omission of George Chalmers seem excusable, even though it is consistent with a similar treatment of Huske, Bollan and others, for Chalmers's two historical works are unquestionably the best histories of their kind written in the eighteenth century on this country. It can be urged, of course, that the author was English born, and wrote his books in Great Britain. But Boucher, who was far less prominent and far less able, to whom much space is given, was English born, and like Chalmers, was driven forth at the outbreak of war.

PAUL L. FORD.

*Archives of Maryland. Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Safety, January 1-March 20, 1777. Journal and Correspondence of the State Council, March 20, 1777-March 28, 1778.* Edited by WILLIAM HAND BROWNE. (Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society. 1897. Pp. viii, 591.)

THIS is the sixteenth volume in the series of *Archives of Maryland*, the publication of which, under the direction of the Maryland Historical Society, was authorized by the state in 1882. The present volume completes the records of the Council of Safety, which were begun in the twelfth volume and continued in the thirteenth, the last two making their appearance in 1892-1893 (*Journal of the Maryland Convention*, July 26-August 14, 1775, *Journal and Correspondence of the Maryland Council of Safety*, August 29, 1775-July 6, 1776, pp. 585; *Journal and Correspondence of the Maryland Council of Safety*, July 7-December 31, 1776, pp. 595.) The *Archives* have hitherto appeared in a somewhat irregular order; but the interruption of the publication of the Proceedings of the General Assembly, of the Council, and of the Records of the Provincial Court, for the appearance of the Sharpe Correspondence and the Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Safety, is doubtless to be explained by a demand for the early printing of the revolutionary and pre-revolutionary documents. It is a source of regret that the meagre appropriation of the state prevents the early completion of a work, which is proving of the greatest value to students of Maryland history.

In 1774 Maryland, in common with the other colonies, was brought face to face with the necessity of yielding up her political freedom, or casting in her lot with those urgent for resistance to British oppression, whatever the consequences. The Boston Port Bill and other British measures of the year aroused the colonies and caused a renewal of the non-importation agreements. Steps were now taken which rapidly transformed Maryland from a British dependency into a sovereign state. The Provincial Convention assembled for the first time on June 22, 1774, under Matthew Tilghman as chairman. Resolutions were passed protesting against the acts of the British Parliament, urging non-intercourse; and delegates were appointed to the first general Congress at Philadelphia, September, 1774. Other conventions were held at frequent intervals from that time until the close of 1776, assumed control of provincial affairs with as little disturbance of existing conditions as possible, and made provision for the common defense of the province and the colonies. In order to provide a permanent executive power, the convention of July, 1775, appointed a Council of Safety, to exercise the chief functions of the convention during the intervals between sessions. The council consisted of sixteen members, eight from each shore, any nine to constitute a quorum; some further changes in the council were made later. Committees of Observation in each county co-operated with the Council of Safety. Among the members of the council, we note the names of Matthew Tilghman, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Samuel Chase, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Thomas Johnson, and Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, who was chosen President of the Council and who afterwards served his state ably in the Federal Convention. Maryland was indeed fortunate in her choice of political leaders. Trying times were these, and the weighty problems of the hour demanded the exercise of the wise counsels, sound judgments, and temperate conversatism of her best men. Great credit is due the members of the council for their courteous treatment of Governor Eden, the last of the proprietary governors, whose authority had been superseded; for its resistance to the pretentious claims of Virginia to the north-west territory; and its suppression of the Tory element in the southern counties. The letters of General Smallwood, who had charge of this latter task, give much interesting information on this point. The moderation that characterized the conduct of Maryland's revolutionary government is particularly noteworthy.

The present publication is an exact reproduction of the original MSS. of the Archives, abbreviations, errors, spelling and all. The minutes and correspondence are combined and arranged in chronological order. The originals, the collection of which is nearly complete, are in the custody of the Maryland Historical Society, and the comparatively few omissions are supplied by later copies of the originals. The complete records of the council cover the period from August 29, 1775, to March 20, 1777, and together with Green's previously published *Proceedings of the Conventions of Maryland*, give the student a good documentary equipment for the study of the most important epoch in Maryland history. On

the latter date, the Council of Safety gave place to the new Council of State, its successor under the new state constitution and the first part of whose records are likewise published in this volume for the first time. Everywhere are evidences of the minute and accurate scholarship of the editor. The print is excellent and the pages are not encumbered or disfigured with notes, such as are necessary being combined together on a leaf following the preface. Marginal references indicate the sources of the documents appearing in the volume and whether originals or copies. Two indexes accompany the volume, one to names of persons and places, the other to letters. These are quite complete, but we note the absence of the serviceable "Topical Index" which occurs in earlier volumes, and for the absence of which no explanation is given.

J. WM. BLACK.

*Constitutional Studies, State and Federal.* By JAMES SCHOULER, LL.D. (New York: Dodd, Mead and Co. 1897. Pp. 332.)

IN this volume Mr. Schouler has sought "to trace the origin and progress of those political ideas which have become dominant and fundamental in American government." He bases his thesis on the colonial charters, the state constitutions and the Constitution of the United States, with frequent reference to leading decisions of the courts. The book contains the substance of lectures delivered before the graduate students of the Johns Hopkins University during the years 1893-1896.

Like other books by Mr. Schouler, this is badly written. It is unfortunate that a man so learned as Mr. Schouler will not or cannot say a plain thing plainly. The book from cover to cover is a blur of thought and expression. This is severe language, but it is fully warranted by these constitutional studies. Much of the fault in form and language might be avoided if Mr. Schouler would employ a skillful reader to revise his manuscript for the press. Mr. Schouler seems never to have heard of that law stated by Herbert Spencer in his *Philosophy of Style*: "To so present ideas that they may be apprehended with the least possible mental effort."

It is rarely that academic lectures are worth printing. They usually contain much elementary matter familiar to general readers, and seldom any special information. If they do not smell of the lamp they smell of the class-room, and it is an odor fatal to a book. Contributions to knowledge may take the form of lectures to university students. Blackstone and Dicey at once occur to the mind as such contributors, but theirs is the art of expressing technical knowledge in readable form. Dicey's English is as clear as Cardinal Newman's. The only hope that a writer and publisher of college lectures can have is to express his ideas in a piece of literature; then it will be read even though its contents are already familiar to persons of ordinary information.

In Part I. Mr. Schouler briefly reviews the early charters in order to show that they recognized the fundamental civil rights of the colonists. This is rather broad construction, but it is the usually accepted American